

MINUTE ITEM

21. OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF, OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT - W.O. 1835.2.

The Chairman read into the record the following letter which he proposed to send to the Honorable Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior, Office of the Secretary, Washington, D. C., relative to petroleum development beyond the three-mile limit:

"Dear Mr. Secretary:

"As chairman of the State Lands Commission of the State of California, I want to commend you for your action, as announced on November 14, 1961, appointing a four-man Departmental Committee headed by Undersecretary James E. Carr to work with the Department of Justice and the State of California to reach an agreement between California and the Federal Government concerning offshore drilling for oil on submerged lands along the California coast.

"The other two members of the California State Lands Commission, State Controller Alan Cranston and Director of Finance Hale Champion, join with me in expressing the unanimous desire of this Commission to cooperate in every way possible in expediting the work of your committee headed by Undersecretary Carr in seeking ways to begin offshore drilling for oil on submerged lands along the California coast.

"The agreement between yourself and California's Attorney General Stanley Mosk to appoint a joint committee from your staffs to study the advisability of an agreement to permit drilling to proceed without objection is an important step forward.

"However, while this joint Federal and State study of the legal aspects of the situation is being made, the California State Lands Commission feels that many technical and policy studies should be undertaken concurrently. I am, therefore, writing to both Undersecretary Carr and yourself to request that the Departmental Committee headed by Mr. Carr meet with the California State Lands Commission at the earliest convenient date.

"I discussed this matter personally with Mr. Carr in Los Angeles last week, and I believe we are in full agreement that such a meeting could have fruitful results. By early action in exploring the policies and agreements which must eventually be agreed upon by the Department of the Interior and the State of California, we hope to advance the timetable for developing vast potential oil resources now going unused.

"We would, of course, be pleased if Mr. Carr's committee would find it convenient to meet with us in California in the very near future.

"Very truly yours,"

UPON MOTION MADE BY COMMISSION CRANSTON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LUEVANO, AND ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY, A RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED APPROVING THE CONTENT OF THE FOREGOING LETTER.